DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 044 346 SO 000 358

TITLE	The Government Story. A Series of Forty Television Programs About the American System of Government.
INSTITUTION	State Univ. of New York, Albany. State Educational Dept.; Westinghouse Broadcasting Corp., New York, N.Y.
PUB DATE	69
NOTE	75p.
EDRS PRICE	EDRS Price MF-$0.50 HC-$3.85
DESCRIPTORS	*Adult Education Programs, *American Government (Course), Concept Teaching, *Independent Study, Individualized Programs, Inductive Methods, *Study Guides, *Telecourses

ABSTRACT

The guide was designed so that the program series could be effectively used as an instructional device for self or individualized study. The series was produced as a public service and planned for adult viewing as enrichment to the basic information about the United States Government. The objectives of the guide for each program are: 1) to identify the generalizations that will be made in the program; 2) to list the models or key concepts from which generalizations can be made; 3) to make statements which enhance or reinforce the generalizations; and, 4) to introduce questions to guide the viewer's attention to the major points in the program as well as to assist the student in the development of concepts which are related to the content of the program. References for further study are included, but the student is encouraged to select additional information sources such as: newspapers, journals, the Congressional Record, and radio and television news reports. (SBE)

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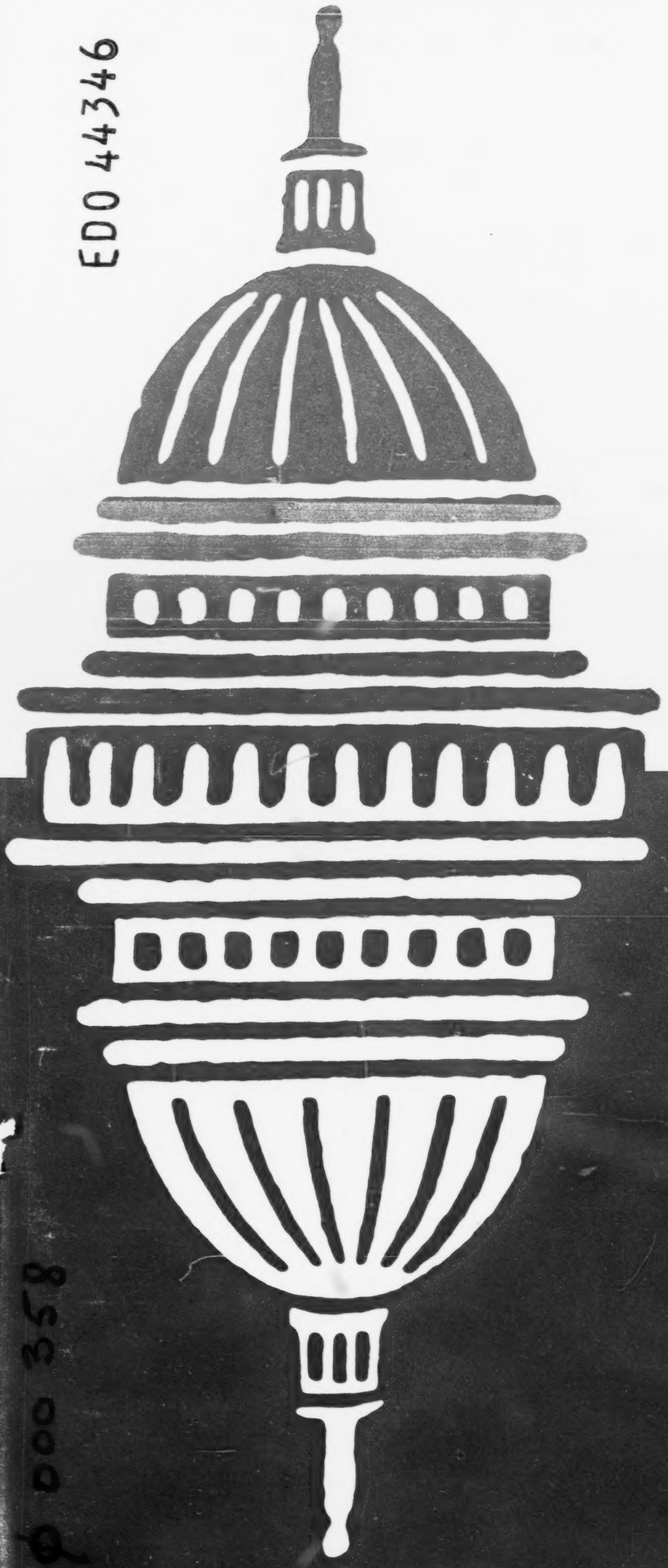

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

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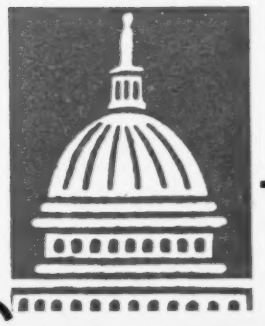

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

A Series of Forty Television Programs About the American System of Government

PRODUCED BY GROUP W **Westinghouse Broadcasting Company**

SP 000 358

This guide was prepared for self or individualized instructional purposes and was printed by The Regents Research Television Fund for the University of the State of New York THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT Division of Educational Communications, Albany N.Y. 12224

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FOREWORD

THE GOVERNMENT STORY is a unique television series designed for all Americans. It provides insights to the human and institutional apparatus and functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial arms of the Federal Government. This outstanding group of documentary programs was inspired by a dedicated and determined group of wives of Congressmen and government leaders who wanted to harness the resources of television to educate Americans on the history of their government and how it works.

The result of their joint effort with Group W (Westinghouse Broadcasting Company) is a major, outstanding series of 40 programs produced by Michael Sklar, the well-known television producer. Professor Stephen Horn, A.B. and Ph.D. in political science at Harvard, and Dean of Graduate Studies and Research for the American University in Washington, D.C., is host of the series. Mr. Horn was selected for the major role of television-audience guide because of his expertise in political science and his ability as both an author and teacher. Dean Horn projects a natural enthusiasm and has the rare ability to explain intricate procedures in simple and clear language. The distinguished actor, E. G. Marshall, is the off-camera historical narrator of the series.

THE GOVERNMENT STORY is available at no cost to all educational television stations, closed circuit and 2500 megahertz installations, and community antenna systems serving the schools of New York State.

The series is also available for duplication onto slant track video tape. Information on this latter availability may be obtained from the State Education Department.

The unusual design of this guide for self or individualized study was planned and written under the expert planning, guidance, and direction of Dr. E. Virginia Biggy and the staff of Designs for Education, Concord, Massachusetts. This publication has been printed by the Regents Research Television Fund; reviewed by Loretta Carney, Assistant in Social Studies; and edited by William Hetzer, Associate in Educational Television, New York State Education Department.

Bernarr Cooper
Chief
Bureau of Mass Communications

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

The series of television programs, THE GOVERNMENT STORY, was produced as a public service and planned for adult viewing as enrichment to the adult's basic information about the United States Government. The programs are "packed solid" with information, they move rapidly and cover a good bit of information and illustration, but they always provide a summary at the end of each program. As the series develops, the viewer will notice that skillfully introduced repetition of ideas fixes the information firmly in his mind.

When the series was planned and produced, no guide materials were available or, for that matter, necessary, but if the series is to be used properly as an instructional device, then some guide material should prove helpful.

The Guide for each program does four things:

1. The generalizations which will be made in the program are identified. Frequently this is done in language other than that used on the program.

2. "Models" of each of the generalizations (when appropriate) are listed. These models are frequently the name of a person or an event which seems to be an illustration of the generalization which has been identified.

3. General statements which enhance the generalizations are made, again, when they seem appropriate.

4. Questions have been introduced to guide the viewer's attention to the major points in the program as well as to assist the viewer in thinking further about the content of the program.

   These questions are not the "yes," "no" variety. They are intended to direct the student's thinking and to help him develop concepts which are related to the content of the program.

   Students are encouraged to read the questions over <u>in advance</u> of viewing the program.

References which will be useful for further study are included in the Guide. Since the number of references one might consult is great, no effort has been made to seek out every possible reference. It would be wise if the student who is interested in certain aspects of the study of the United States Government would select his own reference materials from the library.

Many of the "models" will provide clues to further study of the generalizations in the programs. Newspaper and magazine articles, the Congressional Record, and similar sources would be helpful in pursuing additional information about the "models."

Students are encouraged to find models of the generalizations in the news of the very day and week within which he is viewing the program. Newspapers, magazines, news reports on radio and television are useful sources for immediate, current consideration of the generalizations in the programs. Indeed, "instant" models can be found.

The student is also encouraged to read several newspapers and news magazines and to listen to several news commentators in order to get as many views of the particular point as possible. Such close attention to the radio, television, and press will help the student to find a point of view he can support, as well as to identify bias and propaganda.

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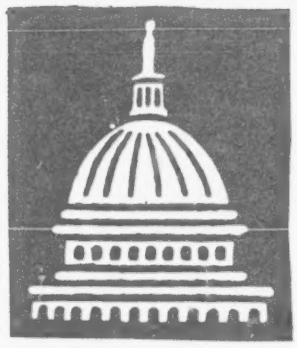


THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 1

OF THE PEOPLE

The political power of the people of the United States is vested in the membership of the United States Congress. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for 2-year terms on the basis of population, and members of the Senate are elected for 6 years, two for each state are directly responsible to the people.

Evolving from the Continental Congress, through the Articles of Confederation to the ratification of the Constitution, the Congress is a complex, many faceted institution representing the great national variety of peoples and attitudes. It alone has the authority to enact bills into law - laws which affect every aspect of life in the United States, thus making Congress the most powerful representative body in the world.

I. The Congress shares with the President the responsibility for the formulation of governmental policies.

Models

Congressional committee system
Congressional power of investigation
Senatorial power to "advise and consent"
"Power of the Purse"

A. In what ways does the structure of the Congress represent compromises made by the writers of the Constitution?

B. What evidence exists to indicate that some writers of the Constitution were fearful of some aspects of democracy?

C. How significant is the Senate's power to "advise and consent?"

D. Why was the House of Representatives given the key role in taxation?

II. The Congress serves as insurance against the control of the government by one man or by a small group of men.

Models

Constitutional system of checks and balances
National Political Party Organization
Role of the registered lobbyists (N.A.M. - AFL - CIO - A.M.A., etc.)
Congressional Party Organization

A. What are the advantages of a loosely organized party structure?

B. What sorts of controls are placed on the activities of pressure groups? Are they sufficient?

C. In what ways does congressional investigatory power protect the people? What dangers are inherent in this power?

D. In what ways does the Congress serve as a court of last resort for citizens?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 2

HOW THE PRESIDENT WORKS WITH CONGRESS

Throughout most of the history of the United States, there has existed a struggle for power between the legislative and executive branches of government. In the 20th century the Executive has taken over much of the initiative which once belonged to Congress. Defenders of Presidential power say that Congress is slow to act in emergencies and that it acts only in response to public demands. Defenders of congressional power use these same arguments, pointing out that it is dangerous for a President to have too much power because he may over-react in a critical situation. Also a powerful Executive may choose to ignore the will of the American people.

I. Why are the following illustrations significant in the struggle between the executive and legislative branches of government:

   A. Washington's treaty with Indians, 1789.
   B. Andrew Jackson's position that the President is equal to the other branches of government.
   C. Lincoln's use of state militias without consent of Congress.
   D. Emancipation Proclamation.
   E. Wade Davis bill (1864).
   F. Tenure of Office Act.
   G. McKinley and War with Spain.
   H. Korean and Vietnam Wars.

II. Presidential power has increased in the 20th century.

   A. Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "The President is at liberty to be as big a man as he can." What was Roosevelt's philosophy on Presidential power? Do you agree with him?

   B. Which president was most effective in obtaining what he wanted from Congress?
      (1) Eisenhower -- hand's off policy,
      (2) Kennedy -- polite persuasion,
      (3) Johnson -- heavy pressure.
      What other variables should be considered in assessing which was most effective?

   C. The Executive is now the chief legislator of the Nation. What advantages does he have which aid him in initiating legislation?

   D. Do you feel that congressional power in the future will steadily diminish? Why?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 3

A GROUP PORTRAIT OF YOUR 535 MEMBERS IN CONGRESS

The members of Congress come from many different parts of the country, have varied backgrounds, and all possess distinct personalities. Although these men may represent conflicting interests, they must, nevertheless, work together in and out of committees. Since all legislative powers are vested in Congress, it is imperative that our legislators learn to cooperate with each other in solving the many problems of our Nation.

Models

Your own Congressmen
Webster, Calhoun, and Clay on slavery issue

I. Members of Congress represent individual voters, their districts, and their country.

   A. To whose need should a Congressman be most responsive: himself, an individual back home, his entire district, or his Nation? Why?
   B. Should a Congressman follow his own conscience on an issue, or should he cast his vote according to the will of his constituency?
   C. How can the thoughtful voter determine the best man for office?

II. Different Congressmen approach problems with different attitudes and perspectives.

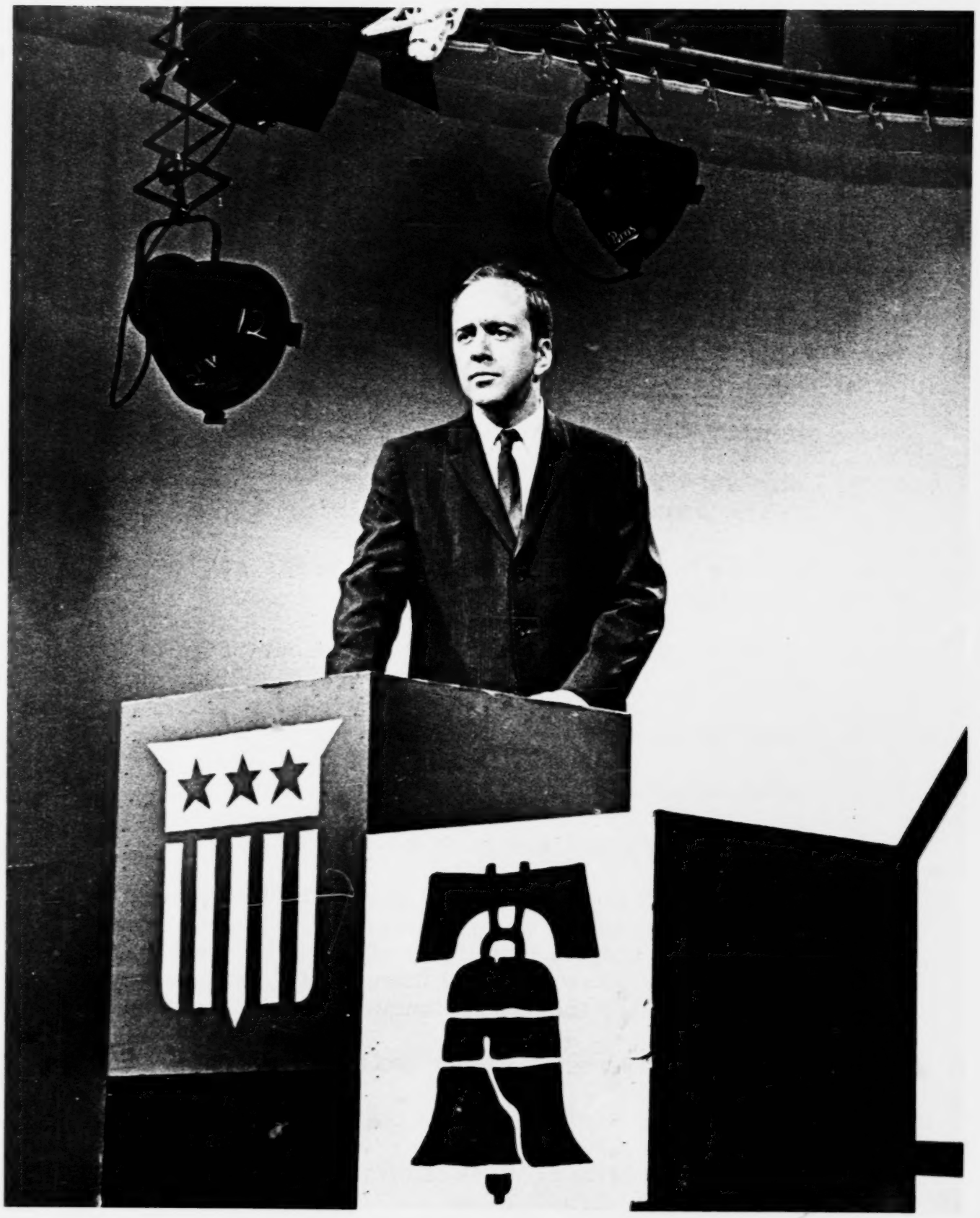
   A. What factors would make Congressmen disagree on how to cope with a regional issue? a national issue? an international issue?
   B. Some legislators approach the study and subsequent support or opposition of bills as pragmatic problem solvers; others approach bills as philosophers. Is one way better than the other? How does each contribute to the creation of legislation? What are the limitations of each of these approaches?

III. The Senate acts as a check on the House of Representatives.

   A. Why did the men at the Constitutional Convention fear that centering all legislative powers in a House of Representatives might lead to anarchy?
   B. Do you agree with their arguments? Why?

IV. All Congressmen do not consider their obligations to be the same as their colleagues.

A. What does it mean to belong to the Senate's "inner club"? What makes a Senator an "outsider"?
B. When you think of "representation," what does it mean to you?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 4

HOW CAMPAIGNING AFFECTS THE WORKING CONGRESS

In order to be effective, a politician must be reelected. Thus much time, money,and effort is spent campaigning in one's home district or state. This practice offers voters an opportunity to review a Congressman's record, to decide if he has represented his constituents well. Campaigning also forces a Congressman to crystallize his views and establish his goals for the term of office which he seeks.

Model

The last congressional election in your state.

I. Congressmen engage in campaigning throughout their term of office. The first phase takes the form of personal service to their constituents.

   A. In what ways do Congressmen remain visible to their voters?

   B. Why is the committee on which a Congressman chooses to serve important in the servicing of his district?

II. The last phase for the Congressman who seeks reelection is formal campaigning.

   A. What are the origins of the political campaign in American history?

   B. What advantages does the incumbent have?

   C. What advantages does the challenger have?

   D. How does one achieve a "name" in politics?

   E. Many people feel that campaigns should be funded by small donations given by a large number of people. Why is this not the usual way of financing campaigns in the United States? How,then, are most campaigns financed? Are there any dangers in this practice?

III. Being reelected several times brings power in Congress.

   A. How will the campaign of a Congressman running for a second term of office differ from a Congressman running for his fifth term? What similarities will probably exist in their campaigns?

B. Will a Congressman in his 12th year of office be able to "get more done" than a Congressman in his first year? Why?

C. Should a voter consider how long one has been in office when determining who is the best candidate? Why?

IV. Do you agree with this statement?

Campaigning is a necessary burden, an unsolved problem, a worthwhile show.

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 5

THE CONGRESSIONAL FRESHMAN

Every Congressman at one time must live through the ordeal of being a freshman Representative or Senator. Little help is offered to these men and women who must learn to cope with their new position. They often are expected to be seen but not heard.

The position of a freshman Senator is somewhat better than that of a freshman Representative since he will not have to face the problem of reelection for 6 years. A Representative, on the other hand, is always conscious of how quickly 2 years pass.

I. The freshman Congressman faces many problems in orienting himself to his new position.

   A. Why is selecting an able staff important to a Congressman?

   B. Why is obtaining an appointment to the committee he wants important to a new Congressman?

   C. To whom does a freshman Congressman usually turn for advice?

II. Freshmen Congressmen must learn to work with senior members.

   A. What advantages does the seniority system offer to our legislative branch of government? What disadvantages are inherent in this system?

   B. It has been said that the seniority system tends to stifle natural leaders. Do you agree? Would you change the system? Why?

   C. How can a committee chairman thwart a young freshman Congressman's goals?

   D. Can you think of ways which would aid the new Congressman to grow out of being a freshman?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 6

STORY OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Since the Speaker of the House of Representatives is the second most important elected official in the United States, it is important to know what powers are inherent in this office. The Constitution does not clearly state what are the duties and obligations of this position. As a result, the power of the office has largely been determined by the man who holds it and the men over whom he presides.

Models

Henry Clay
Thomas B. Reed
Joseph G. Cannon
Sam Rayburn
John McCormack

I. The Speaker remains a regular House member.

A. As a House member, a Speaker represents his home district. In what ways might being Speaker effect how well he represents his district?

B. As a regular House member, the Speaker has the right to debate on the House floor. In what ways would his speaking for a bill affect that legislation?

II. The Speaker acts as leader of the majority party in the House of Representatives.

A. In what ways can a Speaker help his party gain passage of legislation? In what ways might a Speaker hinder the legislative goals of the opposing party?

B. As chief strategist of his party in the House, the Speaker steers Presidential legislation through the House when the Executive is of the same party. Does this imply that our government is most effective when the executive and legislative branches are controlled by one party? Why?

III. The Speaker is the presiding officer of the entire House.

A. Why should a Speaker be fair to the minority party in the House?

B. In what ways are the actions of the Speaker restricted?

C. How has the role of Speaker of the House changed over the course of American history. Do you foresee other changes in the future?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 7

HOUSE LEADERS: THE FIELD GENERALS OF PARTY CONFLICT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To be a leader in the House of Representatives, one must be a party leader, because conflict in the House is largely party conflict. The majority and minority leaders are the chief strategists and spokesmen of their parties. The majority and minority whips must see that their party's members are on the floor to vote and also they must be alert to those wavering Representatives who might be considering voting against the party wishes. Although many major bills are voted on along partisan lines, the final responsibility and decision making on how one will vote is still left with the individual Representative.

Models

John Randolph
Daniel Webster
Thaddeus Stevens
William McKinley

I. Victory or defeat for a legislative proposal is often decided before it reaches the floor of the House of Representatives.

   A. What role does the majority leader play in the House of Representatives?

   B. When a majority leader is of a different party from the President, will his strategies differ from when the two are of the same party? If so, how?

   C. What roles does a party whip play? Will the minority and majority whips vary greatly in their actions? Why?

   D. Discuss the importance of "reciprocity" in the passage or defeat of legislation.

II. The Republican and Democratic parties in the House do not make policy decisions in the same manner.

   A. What advantages are there in using caucuses for party strategy planning?

   B. How is the Democrats' use of informal persuasion different from the Republicans use of party caucuses? Which do you think is more egalitarian? more pragmatic? more effective? What further information would help you better assess these answers?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 8

THE EXERCISE OF LEADERSHIP IN THE SENATE

The party leaders and whips of the Senate perform much the same duties as do the party leaders and whips of the House. However, in the Senate these positions tend to be less powerful, less prestigious, and less significant than in the House since party discipline is less rigid. Leadership in the Senate is usually one of persuasion and bargaining.

Models

William Allison
Nelson Aldrich
Rosco Conkling
Joe Robinson
Lyndon B. Johnson
Robert Taft
Mike Mansfield

I. The Senate leaders cooperate with each other to keep their legislative body moving and alive.

   A. Why is party discipline less rigidly enforced in the Senate than in the House?

   B. Why must Senate leaders work together regardless of their party affiliations?

II. The final decision of how a Senator will vote can be made only by him.

   A. Why do Senate leaders have less control over Senators than do House leaders?

   B. What advantages does a freshman Senator have in making his presence felt among his colleagues?

   C. How would a third-party Senator fit into the two-party scheme in the Senate? Is it possible for him to gain as much power as a Democrat or Republican?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 9

THE CONGRESS CONSIDERS AND PASSES A LAW

A bill may be defeated at any point from the time of its proposal until it is signed into law by the President. Much of its success depends on the moods and attitudes of the men who are called upon to consider its worth and practicality. The bills which are passed and signed are the result of long sessions of bargaining and compromise. Again and again, the importance of reciprocity and man-to-man persuasion emerge as essential ingredients in the day-to-day functioning of Congress.

I. Committee chairmen have the power to call meetings, propose legislation, preside over meetings, and present committee reports to their house.

   A. Why is it beneficial to have a Senator or Representative who has seniority as chairman of an important standing committee? What are the drawbacks of such an arrangement?

   B. Why must a committee chairman and the ranking minority member on his committee attempt to agree on the selection of bills, the scheduling of hearings, and the final proposals of the committees?

   C. Explain the implications of the following statement:

      "Congress exists only to sanction the work of its standing committees." -- Woodrow Wilson

II. Talk is action in the Senate.

   A. What is a filibuster? When is it used? How can it be stopped? Why are senators reluctant to stop a filibuster?

   B. Explain the difference between House and Senate procedures concerning debate of a legislative proposal.

III. Both Houses must approve a bill in the same form.

   A. When are conference committees appointed?

   B. Explain why conferences are often called the elite of Congress.

   C. If we had a unicameral legislature, how would the passage of a bill differ from our present system? Explain the pros and cons of each. Which would you prefer?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 10

THE THOUSANDS OF ANONYMOUS STAFF MEMBERS ON CAPITOL HILL

The number of congressional staff members has increased tremendously in the 20th century. Since much of the responsibility for social and economic development programs has been assumed by the Federal Government, Congressmen have been deluged with requests from individuals in their constituencies. This has necessitated an increase in staff to answer the large influx of mail and phone calls from people with personal problems and questions.

Congressional committees have come to rely on the advice of experts in their decision making. These committee assistants are specialists in their fields. They must know how to work in harmony with several congressmen having differing needs, attitudes, and temperaments. Except for the Foreign Relations and Appropriations committees, these assistants are at the mercy of election returns. Why these men and women are so fascinated by Washington life is hard for some to understand. Most just simply enjoy the thrill of being near or a part of the decision making which will affect this entire country and the world.

I. The type of people a Senator chooses for his staff reflects how he views his position.

   A. What concept of his position does a Senator have who has a service staff; i.e., people who are hired to solve the problems of his constituents?

   B. What concept of his position does a Senator have who has a policy staff consisting of political scientists, lawyers, foreign relations experts, etc.?

   C. Do you feel one of those senators would fulfill his role better than the other? Explain.

II. People accept staff member positions for many reasons.

A. Why would a person want to be a staff member since it is a relatively insecure position?

B. How does personal loyalty affect a staff member?

C. How would you go about obtaining a position as a staff assistant? committee assistant?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 11

HOW SENIORITY LEADS TO POWER AND AFFECTS THE WORK OF CONGRESS

The effect of the seniority system on Congress can most clearly be seen in the organization of committees. The senior majority party member on a committee is appointed as chairman. He may preside graciously or he may try to rule his committee autocratically. A freshman Congressman is at the mercy of his seniors when committee appointments are being given. Though there are many flaws in the seniority practices, it does assure that experienced men will head the committees which pass judgment on the legislative proposals of Congress.

Models

Wilbur Mills
Philip Campbell
Richard B. Russell

I. Leadership in Congress is the result of longevity and the consistent approval by one's constituency.

   A. Why do Congressmen from "safe districts" have an advantage over Congressmen from an evenly split Democratic-Republican district?

   B. How do you explain the fact that so many chairmen represent Southern states?

   C. Explain the statement:

      The United States Senate is the South's revenge for the Civil War.

II. All is not lost if one does not have seniority.

   A. How may a committee wrest power from its chairman?

   B. How do mavericks and independents fit into the seniority system?

   C. Do you feel the seniority system is the best way to delegate power in Congress? What justification do you have for your answer?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 12

HOW CONGRESS RAISES THE MONEY TO RUN THE GOVERNMENT

Throughout our Nation's history, money to run the government has been raised by many different means. In the early years, tariffs on trade goods or the sale of government lands accounted for most of the government's spending money. Today, this revenue is raised mainly through direct income taxes. Since all bills for raising revenue must originate in the House of Representatives, the Ways and Means Committee, which handles all tax legislation, is considered the most powerful committee in the House. This committee has great influence in deciding who is to be taxed and how much they are to be taxed.

Models

Wilbur Mills
Boston Tea Party
Whiskey Rebellion
William Jennings Bryan

I. The Ways and Means Committee must attempt to rise above partisanship in hammering out its tax bill.

   A. Why must the President and the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee cooperate in order to pass a tax bill?

   B. Why must members of the committee try to avoid partisanship?

   C. Why does a tax bill go to the floor of the House under closed rule?

   D. What role does the Senate play in the passage of a tax bill?

   E. How does the President influence tax legislation?

II. Taxes have two goals: the raising of revenue and the enforcement of a government's social policy.

   A. How is a government's social policy reflected in the way it taxes its citizens?

   B. Explain this statement:

      The quality of a government is measured by its tax system.

C. Do you feel that the way American citizens are taxed is just? Can you think of any improvements?

D. Do you feel that a graduated income tax is fair to the rich man? the poor man?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 13

HOW THE CONGRESS DECIDES HOW TO SPEND YOUR MONEY

How the House and Senate committees on appropriations decide how and where Federal funds are to be allocated affects everyone in the United States and many people in other parts of the globe. Many decisions on appropriations are made on the House subcommittee level which often require agencies to justify every dollar that has been spent and every dollar that is requested. In the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the function of a subcommittee may differ since the senators usually emphasize policy rather than economy. The executive branch spends the money which Congress has appropriated. Items which are not approved by the President may be vetoed by simply refusing to spend the money which has been appropriated.

Models

Richard B. Russell
John Rooney
George Mahon
Carl Hayden

I. The committees on appropriations undergo pressure from many different sources.

   A. How might a cabinet officer like to influence a committee on appropriations?

   B. Why must heads of the armed services cooperate with these committees?

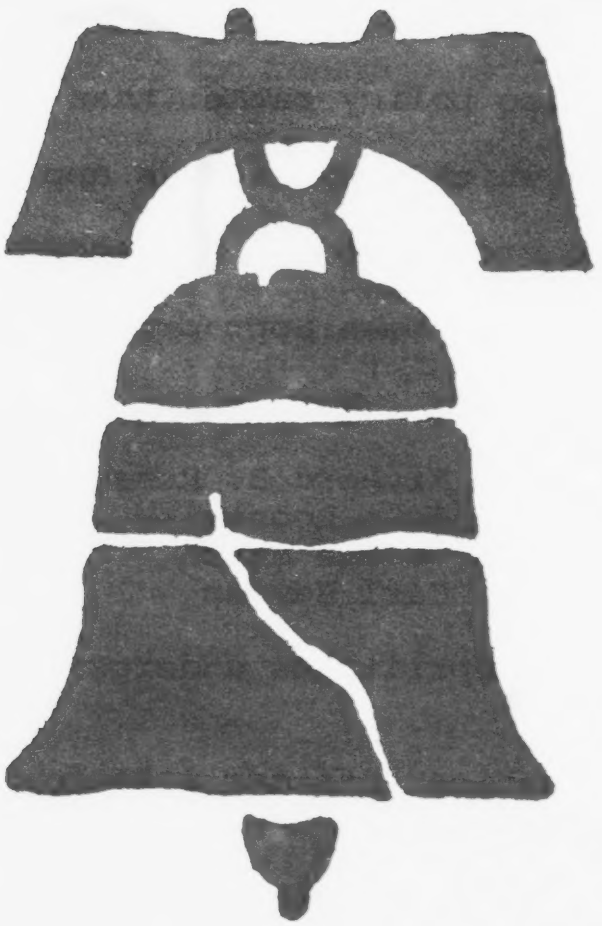
   C. What effect do these congressional committees have on Presidential legislation?

   D. What advantage does a Congressman who is on the Appropriations Committee have in representing his state?

II. The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations is often called The Watchdog of the Treasury.

A. How can the chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations influence the work of his committee?

B. Why do you think the House committee generally cuts amounts requested, whereas the Senate often increases the amounts?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 14

HOW LOBBYISTS TRY TO INFLUENCE LEGISLATION

Lobbying is a natural part of the machinery of our government. Although past scandals have often cast shadows over professional lobbyists, these men and women represent the many interest groups which make up our economy. Since they represent people, they deserve to be heard.

Lobbyists can try to influence legislators by direct contact in personal or committee meetings, or by indirect methods such as arousing a Congressman's constituency on a particular issue, which will often encourage voters to write or call their representatives in Washington. When voters take this type of active interest in their government, they, too, are lobbyists.

Models

National Rifle Association
American Medical Association
AFL-CIO

I. Anyone can be a lobbyist.

   A. If you were interested in a particular piece of legislation, what could you do to help secure its passage? Would you do this?

   B. Who do you feel should have more influence over a Congressman -- a constituent or a professional lobbyist?

II. Lobbyists use both direct and indirect pressure.

   A. How might a lobbyist directly try to influence a Congressman?

   B. How might a lobbyist indirectly try to influence a Congressman?

   C. Why must the President engage in lobbying techniques?

   D. When can lobby groups become dangerous? What can be done to avoid these possibilities?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 15

HOW CONGRESS USES HEARINGS AND INVESTIGATIONS

In order to know what old legislation needs change or what new legislation should be proposed, a congressional committee uses hearings and investigations to gain knowledge and understanding of existing situations. Besides providing information, hearings and investigations allow Congress to keep close surveillance over the works of the Executive. Also, the public can be informed of the need for a change in legislation. Although some investigations gain wide publicity and arouse much emotion, many investigations are low-keyed and routine. It is through techniques such as these that citizens, by means of their representatives, can keep a watchful eye on the operations of their government.

Models

Credit Mobilier
Pugo Investigation
Teapot Dome Investigation
Stock Exchange Investigation

I. Investigations and hearings are conducted when Congress feels it needs information on a subject or when it feels a need for change.

   A. How do hearings and investigations aid a committee in drawing up legislation?

   B. Who might be asked to participate in a congressional investigation?

II. Congress exercises the right of administrative surveillance.

   A. Explain how administrative surveillance is part of our checks and balances form of government?

   B. Are there any dangers in Congress having these investigatory powers?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 16

THE FRIENDLY RIVALS

Within the operational framework of the Federal Government, the Congress, the President's Cabinet, and the Civil Service coexist in an atmosphere of both cooperation and rivalry. The leaders of the 12 major departments of the government are appointed by the President and are responsible directly to him. The careers of the individuals in these positions, therefore, tend to be linked to the length of the presidential term. The on-going work in each department is carried on by the civil servants whose jobs remain constant regardless of election results. This bureaucracy is an extremely well organized and powerful force and yet it is dependent on Congress for prestige and financial support. Therefore, Congress maintains a vital control over the entire executive branch, it chooses to use its power.

I. The federal bureaucracy is able to exert great power and pressure on Congress.

Models

The role of the congressional liaison.
The role of special consultants - i.e., The Department of State.
The history of the Agency for International Development and its relations with Congress.

A. Why is the role of congressional liaison so vital to a Federal department?

B. Are there ways in which the public can exert control over the actions of the Federal departments?

C. In what ways have members of Congress become increasingly sophisticated in their analysis of departmental needs?

II. It is the President's job to balance the demands of each executive department as he develops his total program.

Models

Remarks of the State Department vs. the Defense Department concerning Vietnam War.
Remarks of the Department of Health, Education & Welfare vs. the Justice Department concerning desegregation guidelines.
Remarks of the Department of Agriculture vs. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

A. Is the inevitable rivalry between Cabinet officers a contributive force in developing governmental policy?

B. To what extent does the Office of Management and Budget play a crucial role in the determination of Presidential programs?

C. To what degree does the Federal bureaucracy have more influence in departmental policy than the Cabinet officers?

III. Critics of the Civil Service frequently charge that its bureaucratic machinery makes it slow to respond to new situations.

Models

Post Office Department
Internal Revenue Service
Bureau of the Census
Food and Drug Administration

A. In what ways does the civil service structure tend to preserve the status quo?
B. Should government employees be allowed to strike?
C. In what ways does the existence of a federal civil service prevent the abuse of political patronage?

IV. Despite the rivalry between the Cabinet, the Civil Service, and the Congress, the Congress plays the key role in the decision-making process.

Models

Space Program
MIRV Program
Food Stamp Program
Voting Rights Act of 1965

A. What evidence is there to substantiate the charge that the executive branch has assumed a disproportionate amount of power in the last decade?

B. In what ways is Congress attempting to reassert its traditional power in policymaking?

C. How does the concept of the "court of last resort" play a part in congressional behavior?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 17

THE CONSCIENCE OF GOVERNMENT

To what extent should our government assume responsibility for the welfare of citizens in the 1970's? Historically, the concept of "rugged individualism," nourished by the quantity of available land and westward expansion, has been a continuing force in the formation of American social attitudes. The question now confronts us as to whether the ideal of the totally self-sufficient American has not become a myth in our highly complex and urban society.

From the end of the Civil War until the present day, the Federal Government has become increasingly involved in the day-to-day life of its citizenry. Civil rights, aid to education, employment security, and medical care are but some of the areas receiving increased government attention. Many of these involvements have been strenuously opposed by certain special interest or pressure groups.

The major political parties generally have held differing views as to the degree that Federal responsibility for programs is necessary or desirable. Republicans have tended to prefer a minimum of federal control, giving state and local agencies a large role in controlling and administering programs. Democrats have preferred a centralization of responsibility in the Federal Government. However, in both parties, members frequently cross party voting lines where "sensitive" issues, such as civil rights are concerned.

I. Federally initiated programs of social development have often resulted from the inability, or the unwillingness of states to undertake such programs.

Models

National Industrial Recovery Act
Tennessee Valley Authority
Civil Rights Act of 1964
Social Security Act
Federal Aid to Education

A. What factors made the year 1933 unique in the annals of federally sponsored social legislation?

B. What evidence exists to justify the statement that social legislation is invariably controversial?

C. To what extent have special interest groups helped or hindered the passing of social programs?

II. In general, a fundamental difference between the philosophies of the Democratic and Republican parties lies in their respective attitudes toward federal financial and administrative control of social programs.

Models

Work Projects Administration
Urban Renewal Programs
Medicare
"War on Poverty"
Operation Headstart
Fair Employment Practices Commission

III. Members of Congress, of both major parties, frequently cross party voting lines on social legislation.

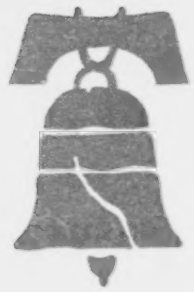
Models

First 100 Days of the New Deal
Medicare
Civil Rights Bill of 1964
Federal Aid to Education
Anti Pollution laws

A. What factors influence the "mood" of the Congress toward social programs?

B. How do regional differences affect congressional voting patterns on social programs?

C. How might current interest in environmental control force some members of Congress to choose between the national interest and the special concerns of their constituents?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 18

INVITATION TO CONFLICT

Beginning with the presidency of George Washington, the executive and legislative branches of government have frequently held conflicting ideas as to which would have the major influence in the formulation and direction of foreign policy. Recently, with the Vietnam involvement, this conflict has been intensified. Many Senators and Representatives now believe that the executive branch has become too independent and that it is time for Congress to reassert its constitutional prerogative.

The Constitution gives to the President the right to make treaties and appoint ambassadors, to the Senate the right to advise and consent to these treaties and appointments, and to the House, the right to initiate appropriations. Thus, the powers are divided within the system of checks and balances.

However, the President and his staff have often found the congressional machinery too cumbersome for efficient operation in our fast-moving world, and the Executive has often acted on the basis of executive agreements not requiring congressional assent.

The current conflict between the two branches of government is epitomized in the series of confrontations between the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the President.

I. The Senate exerts its influence on foreign policy through its right to advise and consent on treaties with foreign powers.

Models

The Louisiana Purchase
The Covenant of the League of Nations
The Establishment of the United Nations
The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution

A. In what particular instances has the Senate played the controlling role in foreign policy?

B. What factors have contributed to the decline of senatorial influence in foreign affairs?

C. What evidence exists to prove that a renaissance of senatorial influence is possible?

II. The House of Representatives exerts influence on foreign affairs primarily through its control of appropriations.

Models

The Marshall Plan
North Atlantic Treaty Organization
Agency for International Development
Alliance for Progress

A. What factors might produce conflict between the Senate and the House over the conduct of foreign affairs?

B. Of what significance is the fact that this power is given to the House rather than the Senate?

III. The congressional committee system helps to insure that the American people are informed on current issues.

Models

The 1967 hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
The 1968 campaign of Senator Eugene McCarthy
The retirement of President Lyndon B. Johnson

A. What techniques can these committees employ to command the attention of the electorate?

B. What has been the role of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee regarding the Vietnam War?

C. What evidence exists to substantiate the statement that the American people are the ultimate arbiters of recurring conflicts between the executive and legislative branches of government?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 19

THE FOLKS BACK HOME

Members of the Senate and the House must attend to both federal problems and to the personal needs and concerns of their constituents. The effectiveness and durability of Congressmen depend on how well thay are able to achieve a balance between the two.

Senators, elected for a 6-year term, with an entire state as a constituency, can be more independent in their actions. By comparison, members of the House, with a 2-year term, must be more directly involved with the day-to-day problems of their constituents and tend to have less opportunity to act as individuals on the national scene.

Despite inevitable problems, particularly in communication, it is perhaps remarkable that a system of government, devised in the 18th century, can function as effectively as it does.

I. Members of Congress must be both servants and leaders of the people.

Models

Concept of the "Court of last appeal"
Congressional "Casework"
Congressional committee system

A. In what sense can it be stated that we are the only major nation whose representative form of government came directly from the people?

B. What attempts were made by the writers of the Constitution to ensure that the voice of the people would be heard?

II. Senators, withstatewide constituencies and 6-year terms, have greater independence of action than do members of the House.

Models

Leadership roles of:
William Fulbright
Jacob Javits
Abraham Ribicoff
Charles Goodell
The Vietnam debate
Civil rights legislation

A. What examples could be cited to prove that a Senator's stand on a national issue sometimes differs from that of a majority of his constituents?

B. On what sorts of issues are Senators most apt to reflect the general concerns of their states?

C. What factors make it possible for Senators to have a greater influence on national policy than do members of the House?

III. The membership of the House of Representatives is built on the concept of district representation with the representatives returning to the people every 2 years for reelection.

Models

Grassroot communication
Protection of local interests
Concept of participatory democracy
Protection of individual rights

A. In what ways do members of the House serve as effective bridges between the people and the government?

B. In what ways might the short term reduce the effectiveness of a representative?

C. Would a longer term destroy the intent of the writers of the Constitution?

D. What techniques could be employed to bring the government closer to the people?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 20

CHANGE AND REFORM FOR A MODERN CONGRESS

Although the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government were intended to have equal powers and responsibilities, historical circumstances can sometimes thwart this plan. In the 20th century, the executive branch has tended to become more powerful, partly because of the resources available to it. This tendency has diminished the effectiveness of the traditional checks and balances system. Some feel that Congress has forfeited its initiative in legislative matters.

The necessity for congressional reform has been recognized by many legislators as an essential precondition before Congress can reassert itself and once more assume an equal position with the executive branch of the government.

I. The Executive has more mechanical resources than Congress.

   A. How do data processing machines and systems analysis equipment enable the Executive to evaluate problems and offer solutions better than Congress?

   B. Do you feel that Congress should have such machines made available to it? Would this be unnecessary duplication and a waste of taxpayers money?

II. Internal reorganization of Congress is necessary before Congress can reassert itself.

   A. Would stricter party discipline within the houses of Congress enable the Legislature to work more effectively?

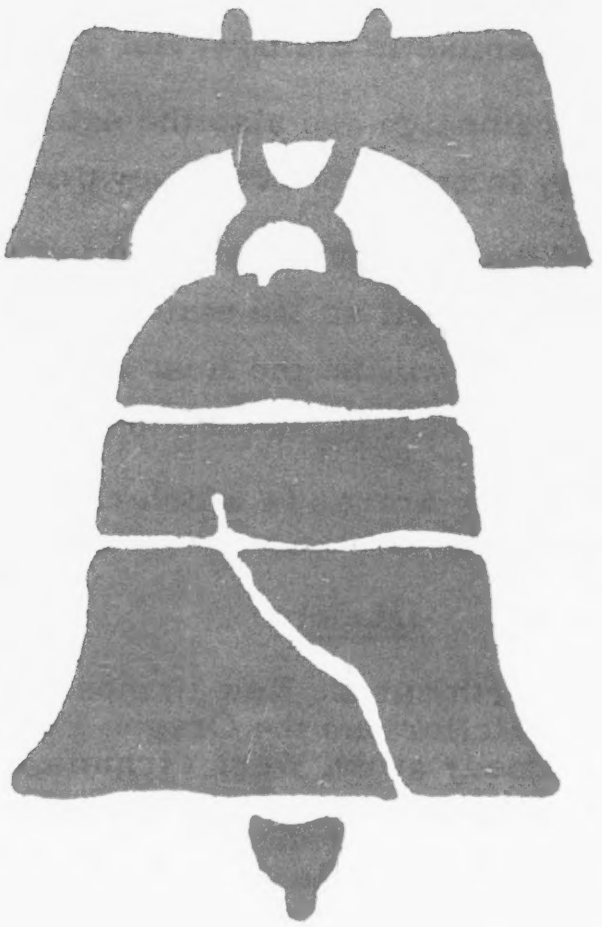
   B. What is "congressional oversight"? How does congressional oversight suffer when the two elected branches of government are of the same political party?

   C. Who should fund political campaigns? Who actually does fund them? Do you feel the government should appropriate money to candidates? What are the dangers in such a practice? Can you think of any ways a citizen might be encouraged

to contribute to his favorite political candidate?

D. Do you feel there should be a code of ethics for Congressmen? If so, should it apply only to them or to all government workers? Why?

E. Justify the seniority system in Congress. Do you feel that changing this practice would enable Congress to function more effectively? Why?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 21

THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE

In politics, it has been stated, the office seeks the man and not the man the office. In the contemporary American scene, however, the road to the White House is an arduous course. The candidate must overcome many obstacles if he is to win his party's presidential nomination.

The candidate must start his race early, and he must convince the party leaders and prospective delegates to the convention that "he" is a "winner." He must demonstrate his vote-getting ability in carefully selected primaries. He must prove the breadth of his support and the extent of his appeal to ethnic and other politically significant groups. Furthermore, he must illustrate his political expertise to the powerful figures within his party.

Key factors in his campaign are also the extent of his financial support and his durability in terms of sheer physical stamina.

The culmination of the candidates' efforts is the political convention where strategy and timing, as well as the national mood of the moment, are all important. These factors will be the final determination as to whether his long and exhausting quest will be successful.

I. State primaries are key arenas in which candidates can demonstrate their vote-getting abilities.

Models

Eugene McCarthy at the New Hampshire Primary in 1968
Nelson Rockefeller and the Oregon Primary, 1964
John F. Kennedy at the West Virginia Primary, 1960

A. Why has the New Hampshire primary assumed special importance in recent elections?

B. What factors contribute to the choice of primaries a candidate will enter?

C. What are the chief advantages in the primary system?

D. What effect can intraparty primary struggles have on the late interparty fight for the presidency?

II. State party leaders play key roles in the selection of presidential candidates.

Models

Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago in 1960
Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina in 1968
Henry Cabot Lodge in 1952
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt in 1952

A. How does a candidate "prove" himself to a state leader?

B. To what extent are ethnic and religious affiliations of concern in state politics?

C. How did Richard Nixon enlist the support of state leaders?

D. In what ways can state leaders influence the national nominating conventions?

III. In order to be a serious contender for the presidency, a candidate must receive the endorsement of his party's national convention.

Models

Robert Taft versus Dwight Eisenhower at the 1952 Republican Convention
Eugene McCarthy versus Hubert Humphrey at the 1968 Democratic Convention
Estes Kefauver versus Adlai Stevenson at the 1952 Democratic Convention
Nelson Rockefeller versus Barry Goldwater at the 1964 Republican Convention

A. Is there evidence to support the statement that conventions have become less dominated by political bosses?

B. What techniques are used by candidates to influence delegates?

C. What effect has television coverage had on the character of conventions?

D. Has the convention outlived its usefulness as an effective way to select candidates?

E. What other method of selection would seem to be feasible?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 22

HOW THE PRESIDENT MAKES HIS WAY FROM THE NOMINATING CONVENTION TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Once a presidential candidate has been nominated by his party, he must begin a long, arduous, expensive campaign. His strategy must change from trying to gain support within his party to trying to gain support from other elements outside his party. Our presidential campaigning system favors men who are well known, proven votegetters, and who usually are politically moderate in their views. A candidate must appear to be a statesman, knowledgeable, and in control of all situations.

Models

Republican nominating convention - 1952
Democratic nominating convention - 1952

I. The nominating convention is an important hurdle to overcome for any presidential aspirant.

   A. What qualities do party leaders look for in a presidential candidate?

   B. How do state primaries affect a candidate's position?

   C. How can voting for a favorite son thwart another's presidential ambitions?

   D. What strategies would you use to obtain votes for a candidate at a convention?

   E. Why do conventions usually choose moderates?

   F. What happens when two or more state delegations appear at the convention, both demanding to be seated?

II. The candidate with the most popular votes does not always become President.

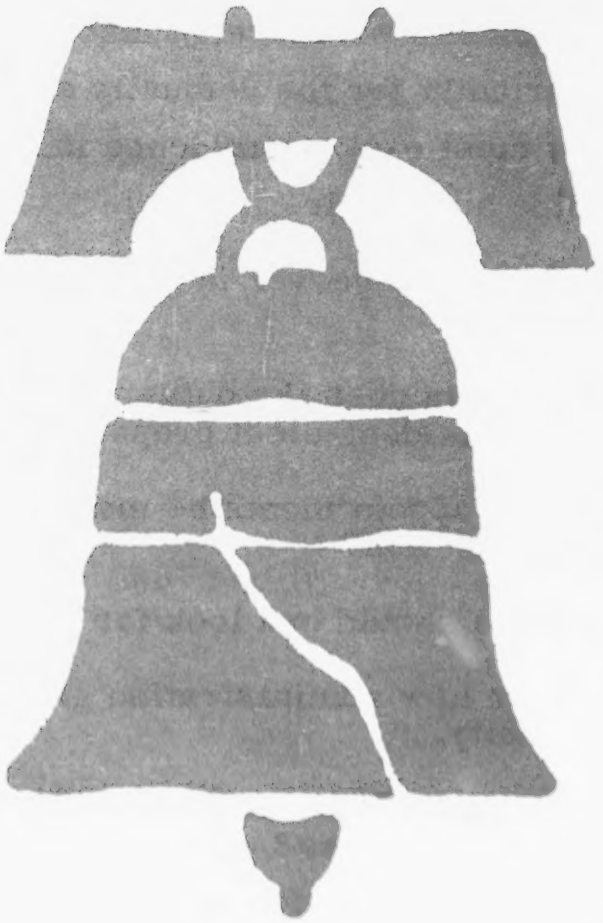
   A. Explain why the writers of the constitution did not want the President elected directly by the people.

   B. What is the electoral college? Who are the electors? What controls their votes?

C. What happens if no candidate receives a majority of votes in the electoral college?

D. Do you feel that the electoral college should be changed? Why?

E. Who would not want to see the electoral college changed? Why?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 23

HOW THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT CHANGES HANDS

Leading a nation as large and as important as the United States is no easy task. Between the time a man is elected and the time he officially takes office he must become more thoroughly acquainted with his new powers and responsibilities. He must decide whom he will appoint as cabinet officers, bureau and agency heads, staff workers, and to numerous other positions.

Once he assumes command, a President must establish a working relationship with Congress and with foreign ambassadors and heads of state. Even more importantly for the domestic situation in the United States, a new President must evoke confidence in his leadership from those whom he is to guide and inspire.

I. The preparation for a changeover in government is more structured now than in the past.

   A. What procedures does the outgoing President follow to help the President-elect prepare for his new office?

   B. Why must top appointments be made soon after a candidate's election?

   C. What qualities should one look for in a cabinet officer?

II. It is important that a new administration give an appearance of stability and continuity.

   A. Why is it important for a new President to establish contacts with Congress? with ambassadors and heads of state?

   B. To what extent should a President be bound by his campaign speeches?

   C. What problems might a Vice President, who because of a crisis must assume the Presidency, have in making the transition?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 24

THE MEN WHO HELP THE PRESIDENT RUN THE COUNTRY

The Executive office is growing to meet the needs of the country. More and more, the President's staff of advisors has been forced to expand in order to give him the necessary professional advice on the programs and policies of his administration. This trend has increased the power of the Presidency, much to the disadvantage of Congress. Congress simply cannot compete on the same level as the Presidency. Increasingly, Congress has been forced into the position of acting upon Presidential programs rather than initiating legislation of its own. This increase of Presidential power will affect the traditional system of checks and balances unless Congress reasserts itself and forces the Executive to limit his actions and to act more in accordance with his constitutional powers.

Models

Richard Nixon
Hubert H. Humphrey
Lyndon B. Johnson
Spiro Agnew

I. The Vice President is as important as the President allows him to be.

   A. Why do men who run for President often refuse the chance to be Vice President?

   B. Why do Presidents and Vice Presidents sometimes greatly differ on policies and programs?

   C. Why is it more customary now for a President to utilize his Vice President than it was in the 19th century?

II. The cabinet is dependent on the President for its power.

   A. What are the advantages in giving Cabinet members a great deal of authority in carrying out the functions of the Presidency? the disadvantages?

   B. What qualifications should a Cabinet member have?

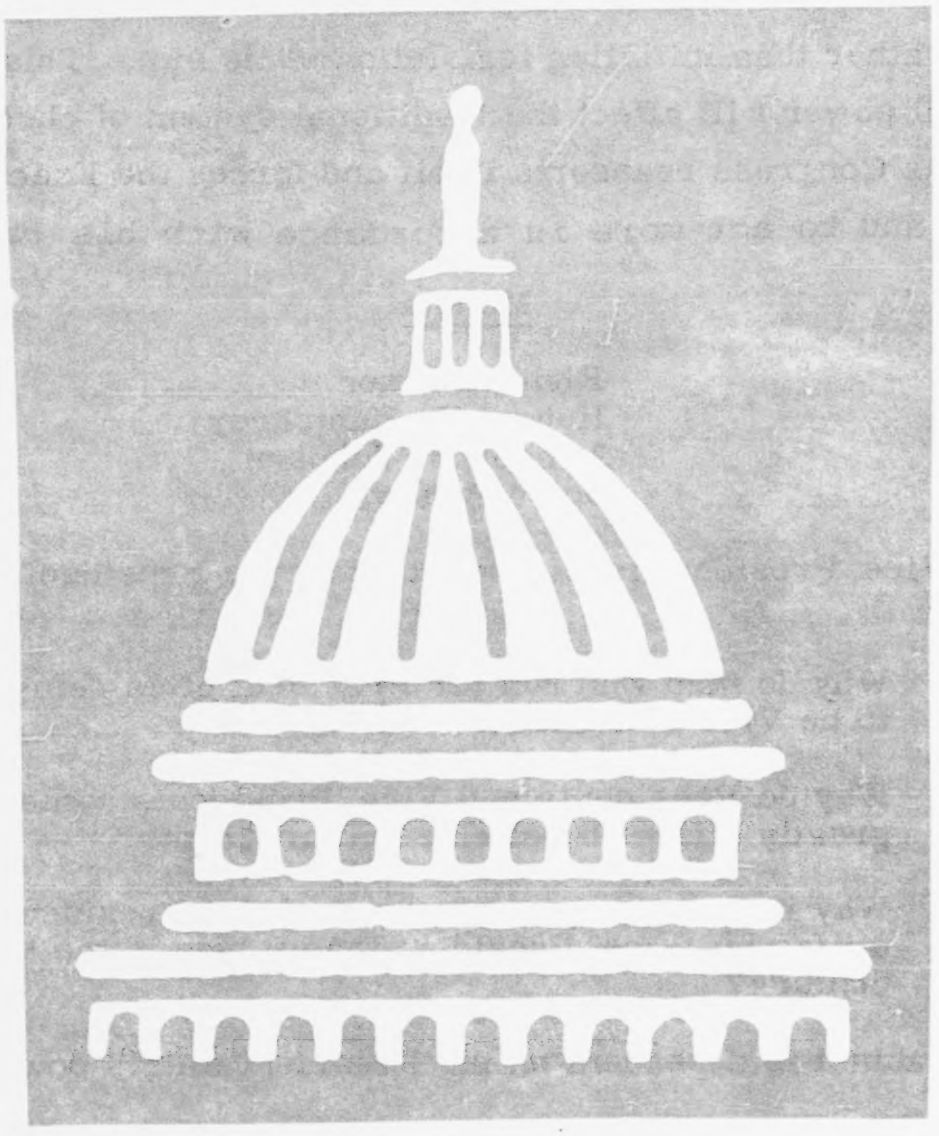
   C. Why do some Presidents prefer to rely on their own personal advisors, rather than a Cabinet officer?

III. The President is aided by many agencies.

A. What is the function of the White House office? What are the common characteristics of its members?

B. How can the Office of Management and Budget affect an administration's programs?

C. How does the National Security Council augment the power of the President?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 25

THE RIGHT HAND OF THE PRESIDENT

To make the job of President of the United States a more bearable one, approximately 300 people are currently employed as members of the President's personal White House staff. The size of this staff is in direct contrast to earlier days of our history when Presidents operated with only a private secretary to aid in the duties of the Executive.

Today, the personal staff operates under the direction of special assistants, appointed by and responsible to the President. The duties of the special assistants are varied and broad, including public relations, foreign and domestic affairs, congressional liaison, personnel, and party affairs.

Presidents have organized their staffs in different ways, ranging from the informal, free-wheeling style of President Franklin Roosevelt, to the tightly structured organization of President Eisenhower. In all cases, however, the members of the President's staff are men with a broad knowledge of contemporary problems. It is their responsibility to ease the awesome workload of the presidency and, in the words of President Woodrow Wilson, "help the President to be as big a man as he can be."

I. The organization of a White House staff depends on the style and personality of the President.

Models

Staff organization of:
John F. Kennedy
Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard M. Nixon

A. To what extent might Presidential assistants play a more important role in the development of policy than do Cabinet members?

B. What are the advantages of:

(1) tightly structured staff?
(2) informally organized staff?

C. What are some inherent dangers in the staff system?

II. In his personal staff, the President tends to include men who do not have political ambitions of their own.

Models

Clark Clifford	and	Harry Truman
Jack Valenti	and	Lyndon Johnson
McGeorge Bundy	and	John Kennedy

A. In what specific areas does Congress resent the power of Presidential assistants?

B. Is conflict between the staff, the Cabinet and the Congress inevitable? Is conflict ever advantageous?

C. What recent evidence do we have that the concerns of President Nixon's special assistants have been directly reflected in national policy?

III. A member of the President's personal staff has power only to the extent that he reflects the power and prestige of the President himself.

Models

The relationship between:

Franklin Roosevelt	and	Harry Hopkins
Dwight Eisenhower	and	Sherman Adams
John Kennedy	and	Theodore Sorenson
Lyndon Johnson	and	Walt Rostow

A. How can a President protect himself from becoming a "prisoner" of his special advisors?

B. What are the "chances" the President might take in this Presidential advisory system? Are there any safeguards?

C. What roles does the media play in helping to maintain a balance of power between the staff, the Cabinet, and the Congress?

IV. You have just been elected President of the United States and are faced with selection of a staff. What type of men would you look for? Where would you find such men? What would be their duties and responsibilities?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 26

THE LONELY OFFICE

Is the Office of the President too big for any one man? Thomas Jefferson called the Presidency a "splendid misery" and Harry S. Truman said that "no man can do it as it should be done."

The powers of the President are defined in the Constitution, but those definitions bear only a minimal resemblance to the powers of that office today. Presidential responsibilities have grown to include every area of national life, including chief executive of the federal bureaucracy, chief politico, chief of state, and chief educator. Recent presidents have handled these roles in different ways according to their personal styles, but all would agree that the Office of President is the biggest and loneliest job in the world.

I. As Chief Executive and Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces, the President's power to hire and fire key personnel makes it possible for him to control the direction of his administration.

Models

Relationships between the following:

President Truman and General Douglas MacArthur
President Eisenhower and Senator Joseph McCarthy
President Nixon and Attorney General John Mitchell

A. For what reasons did the writers of the Constitution place the military under civilian control?

B. What possible conflicts could exist between civil service employees and Presidential appointees?

C. How does the American Cabinet system differ from that of the British?

II. The President is the Nation's chief diplomat, responsible for formulating and implementing foreign policy.

Models

Monroe Doctrine
Tonkin Gulf Resolution
Truman Doctrine
Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
Eisenhower Doctrine

A. Did John Foster Dulles and Dean Rusk reflect or shape the foreign policy attitudes of the President with whom they served?

B. For what reasons has Congress grown to resent Presidential action in the area of foreign affairs?

III. The President must be chief legislator, seizing the initiative in order to ensure the passage of his program, foreign and domestic.

Models

President Roosevelt and The New Deal
President Truman and the 80th Congress
President Johnson and The Great Society Program

A. How can Presidential assistants help the President in his legislative role?

B. What kinds of pressure can the President exert on Congress to enact his proposals?

C. What evidence is there to support the statement that Congress has become only a legislative review board?

IV. The President, in his role as chief politician, must work continually to keep his party united and solvent.

Models

President Kennedy's trip to Texas - November 1963

President Truman and his Whistle Stop Tour - 1948

President Nixon and the gubernatorial races in Virginia and New Jersey - 1969

A. What techniques does a President use to nullify factions within his own party?

B. How can a President avoid becoming a prisoner of special interest groups within the party?

C. Is the American two-party system a realistic one in light of the diversity of views reflected in each?

V. As a symbol of the Nation, both at home and abroad, the President must exert ethical leadership in matters of public policy.

Models

President Truman and the hydrogen bomb, 1945

President Eisenhower and Little Rock school desegregation, 1956

President Kennedy and The University of Mississippi, 1962

President Johnson and the protection of civil rights marchers, Selma, Alabama

A. To what extent does the responsibility for ethical leadership force the President to rise above partisan politics?

B. In what ways does the role demand that the President also be "chief educator" in this country?

C. What kind of decisions could measure the quality of a President's leadership?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 27

THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM

The Constitution stipulates that the President report directly to the Congress on national affairs at least once a year. Traditionally, it is in the context of this "State of the Union" address that the President presents his legislative program – identifying national problems and marshalling the resources of national government to meet them.

The programs presented by the President are formulated by various members of the executive branch, including special assistants, advisors, task forces, etc., and are tailored to suit the ideological and personal tastes of the President and his party. The key to the actual priorities placed by the President lies in the budget message in which he recommends specific funding for each of these programs. It is then a test of presidential skill and leadership to persuade the Congress to pass and fund the programs he deems desirable for the welfare of the country.

I. The executive branch has become the main source of legislative proposals.

Models

Poverty Program	Operation Headstart
Peace Corps	Works Project Administration

A. What factors have contributed to the growth of Executive power in designing national programs?

B. What are some of the special resources available to the President?

C. To what extent do nongovernmental agencies play a role in the formulation of legislative proposals?

II. Through his programs, the President seeks to create a unique image, independent of his predecessor.

Models

New Deal Legislation	President Roosevelt
The Marshall Plan	President Truman
Atoms for Peace	President Eisenhower
Aid to Education	President Johnson
Welfare Reform	President Nixon

A. What are some ways by which a President can rally public support behind a program?

B. What controls are exercised by other governmental agencies over the implementation of national programs.

C. To what extent should an individual President's personal concerns be reflected in his program.

III. The President must serve as final arbiter between his advisors, Cabinet members, and department heads concerning proposed legislation.

Models

Revising School Desegregation Guidelines - President Nixon
Welfare Programs - President Nixon
Veto of Education Bill - President Nixon

A. In what instances can it be shown that special Presidential advisors have had more influence on programs than Cabinet members?

B. What factors might influence a President to consider one advisor's recommendations over another – i.e., school desegregation guidelines?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 28

THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS: LEADING AND LOBBYING

Once the President has decided what programs he wishes to see implemented, he must then present his programs to Congress for authorization. The President can influence the decisions of Congress, but he cannot force it to approve his proposals, for according to the Constitution, one branch of government cannot rule another.

However, the President can try to persuade Congressmen to approve his programs. The Chief Executive often can offer Congressmen what they most need and want. The White House can show its appreciation to Congressmen in many ways, especially when they are running for reelection. The Executive usually deals through the leaders of Congress, but on an especially vital piece of legislation, he may personally contact Congressmen to ask for their support.

I. The White House staff often acts as a communication line between the Executive and Congress.

   A. Why is it advantageous for a Congressman to acquiesce to the President's wishes when they are both of the same party?

   B. On what type of legislation would the White House staff actively engage in lobbying?

   C. What is the aim of a professional lobbyist? Would a Presidential staff member who lobbies for the Presidential program use the same approach and methods as a professional lobbyist?

II. The White House stamp of approval is a great asset in the passage of a piece of legislation.

   A. If you were opposed to some piece of legislation which the President felt was in the interests of the Nation and he personally phoned you, would your attitude toward the bill soften? How do you think most people would react?

   B. Why do most Presidents refrain from openly and actively lobbying for a bill unless they feel its passage is absolutely necessary?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 29

THE POLITICAL EXECUTIVES

Approximately 2,200 men and women are appointed by the President to direct departments and bureaus of the Federal Government. Covering a wide range of jobs, these appointees come to government service, usually at a financial sacrifice, from positions of prestige and responsibility. They are expected to move swiftly and skillfully into their new posts, providing the direction for the "career bureaucracy" and serving as middlemen between the Executive, the Civil Service, and the Congress.

Political executives have low job security, rarely surviving a change of administration and seldom moving into political careers of their own. To be actively involved in the formulation and implementation of policies for the Nation seems to be sufficient reward for them.

I. Political executives should be prepared to innovate, not just administer.

   A. How does a President recruit men to fill key appointive posts?

   B. What frustrations does this system engender for career civil servants?

   C. In what ways are political executives "middlemen" in any administration?

II. Political and career executives must work closely together in order for the organization to work well.

   A. In what ways are political executives vulnerable?

   B. Should political parties take more active roles in the recruitment and advancement of career civil servants?

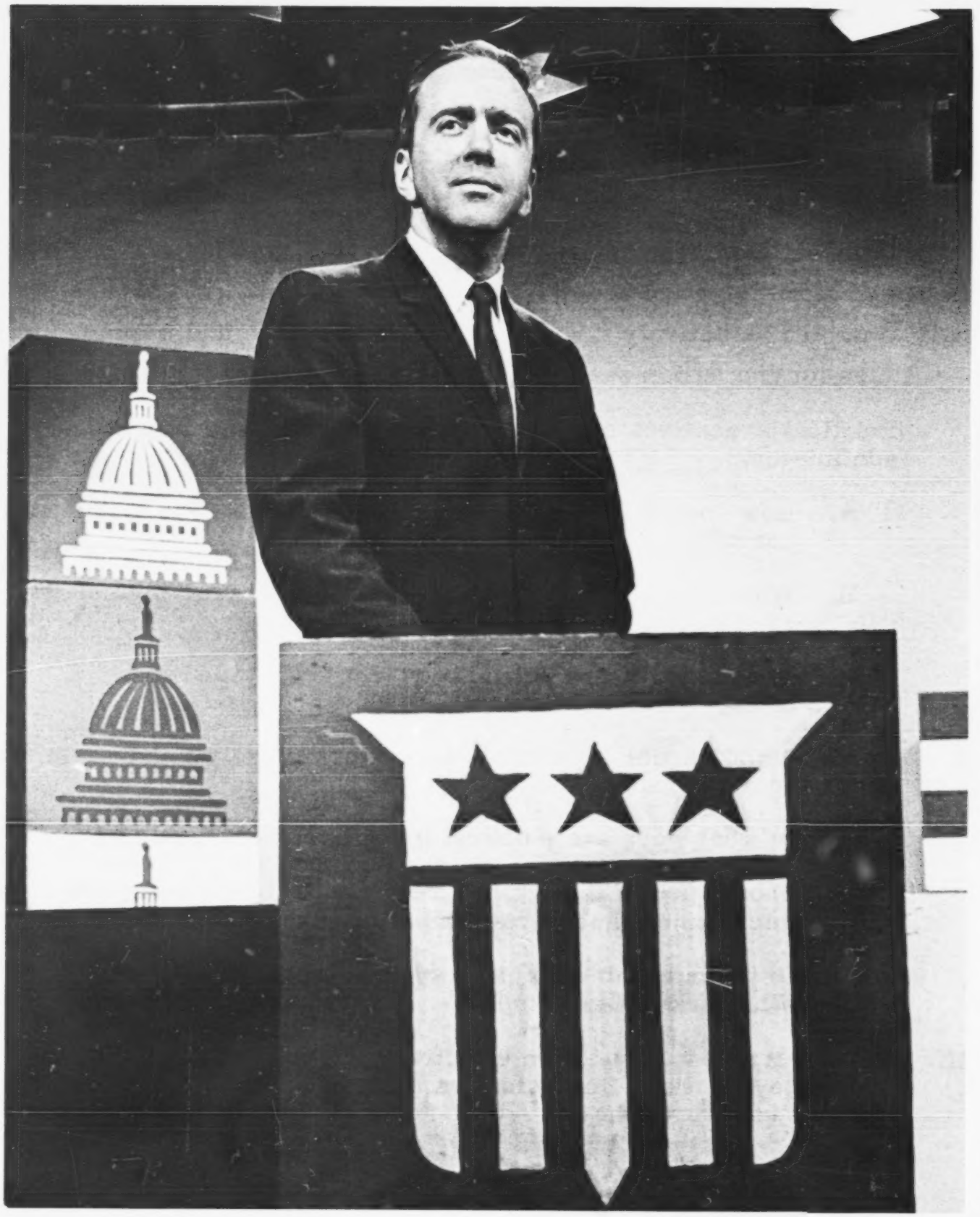
   C. Is the current appointive system inefficient? What are its advantages?

III. For government to function effectively, it is important that an orderly system of communication exist between the legislative and executive branches.

A. What is the role of the political executive in maintaining this communication?

B. What control does the Congress have over Presidential appointees?

C. What are the chief factors hampering efficient communications between various components of government?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 30

CIVIL AND POSTAL EMPLOYEES WHO STAFF THE OFFICES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The bureaucracy of the United States consists of people from all walks of life. These men and women keep the machinery of government moving. They are the man down the street, or the lady next door, doing their job, which is to provide governmental service to the communities of America.

Bureaus and agencies must deal both with Congress and with the Executive. As a result, loyalties within a bureau or agency may become divided. Sometimes, however, a bureau chief becomes so closely allied to a congressional committee that his bureau will become virtually independent of the Executive.

I. The Civil Service must make further attempts to broaden its base.

   A. How can civil service examinations discriminate against minority groups?

   B. In what ways does the civil service offer a chance for advancement for minority groups?

II. The career service is experiencing a change in attitude. Rather than feeling they are serving an individual bureau or agency, members are tending to feel they are working for the whole government.

   A. Why is cooperation between governmental agencies important?

   B. Would you consider entering the governmental career service? Why? What branch would interest you?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 31

THE GROWTH OF THE PRESIDENCY SINCE THE DAYS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON

The duties and responsibilities of the Presidency have increased enormously since the days of George Washington. Advances in communication alone have placed the President's actions and personality in full view of the Nation and the world. To aid in performing his many and varied duties, the President may enlist the support of his Cabinet chiefs. In the days of George Washington, a President was compelled to listen to his powerful Cabinet members such as Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton because of their own strong personal political following. Recent Presidents have not had to deal with competitors within their Cabinet since many officers are former corporation administrators rather than senators, governors, or other political officeholders. Rather, an attempt has been made to function as a team. Though this tendency has the advantage of enabling the executive branch to act as a unit, it has also permitted Presidents to ignore their Cabinets and instead rely on close personal aides.

I. Many critics feel that the Presidency has acquired too much power.

   A. How has the complexity and turbulence of our times contributed to the growth of Presidential power?

   B. Contrast the role of today's President with that of George Washington's. In what ways are they similar?

II. Policymaking has increasingly become more professionalized.

   A. How does the bureaucracy act as a check of the Executive?

   B. Do you feel that the Presidency has become too powerful? Explain.

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 32

DECISION MAKING IN THE WHITE HOUSE

In this age of nuclear weapons, Presidential decisions sometimes can direct the fate of our world. A too hasty or a too slow response to a critical situation can mean life or death for millions of human beings. It is therefore imperative that a President be qualified to make responsible and sound judgments. Before deciding, a President must try to evaluate a situation by examining all available data. This means that he must rely on reports and the advice, opinions, and attitudes of his Cabinet members and staff. He needs honest and sincere suggestions, and he must be able to see the best workable solution to a problem. Too often during a critical moment, information will be scant and sometimes unreliable. Nonetheless, a President must decide how the government will react, taking into consideration all the implications of its actions.

Models

U-2 incident
Cuban missile crisis
Pueblo incident

I. Presidential decision making is a difficult affair.

   A. Why are Presidential decisions often so dependent on the undependable?

   B. The way in which a President views his office will affect how he decides to use his power. How would two presidents' views differ if one believed in a literal constitutional interpretation for justifying his power and the other believed in the stewardship theory of Presidential power?

II. There is no formula for making good judgments.

   A. Why should channels of communication to the President be readily accessible? What could happen if an aide or political executive withheld important information from a President?

   B. Is there any way by which voters can evaluate a presidential candidate's ability to make sound judgments?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 33

HOW THE PRESIDENT COMMUNICATES WITH THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE PRESS AND BROADCASTERS

Communicating is an important part of policymaking in the United States. In a democracy, it is imperative that the people know and understand issues so that they can make intelligent choices and so that they can act as a check on the actions of government officials. A President receives the most scrutiny perhaps because of the import of his actions and words.

The President can consciously try to feed the public only information favorable to his administration. However, when reality conflicts with information, a credibility gap will grow, which sometimes is more detrimental to an administration than outspoken, truthful information would have been. The public must feel they can trust the President, for people will not follow a leader whom they do not respect.

Models

Vietnam War
John F. Kennedy
Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard M. Nixon

I. A popular President can lead a nation to greatness.

   A. What makes a President popular?

   B. How do newspapers, television, and radio contribute to a President's popularity?

   C. How have television and radio brought the President closer to the American people?

II. News broadcasters and the press contribute to our democratic government by informing the public of their government's policies and actions.

   A. When are half-truths acceptable?

   B. What is meant by "responsible reporting"?

C. Why is it important that the executive branch speak with one voice?

D. How do "press leaks" affect government policy?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 34

THE FEDERAL REGULATORY AGENCIES AND THE PRESIDENT

The Interstate Commerce Commission, established in 1887, was the first federal regulatory agency. Like many of the agencies which were to follow, it was created due to public indignation and outrage. People saw the need for regulation of certain industries on a national level was necessary for the protection of the public.

Agency men are appointed by the President, but must be approved by Congress. Some Presidents have attempted to control agencies, but this is sometimes difficult since a man cannot be removed simply because he does not agree with the President. The Chief Executive not only cannot control membership, but also, the agency reports to Congress rather than to the President.

I. Although the President's power to regulate federal agencies is limited, he can influence their policies.

   A. How can a President steer an agency toward the direction of his thinking and goals?

   B. How can a President's personality foster a change in agency policy?

   C. What advantage does a President who has been re-elected have in controlling agency membership?

   D. If a President's party controls Congress, can an agency's policies be changed? Can they be changed if the Executive is in opposition to Congress? Explain.

II. Agencies were created to fill a need that Congress itself could not meet.

   A. Identify several regulatory agencies.

   B. Why might agencies be more fair than Congressmen in dealing with individual businesses?

   C. Explain why agencies have the advantage of having more continuity of policy and of being able to defend the public interests better than Congress would if doing the same job.

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 35

PROBLEMS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The 20th century has seen the Federal Government accept many of the financial responsibilities that were once reserved solely for state and local governments. Cities and states are often burdened with out-dated constitutions. They also have the problem of trying to attract talented men and women into their governments since such people are usually attracted to more glamorous positions working for the Federal Government on the national level.

Federal programs must be implemented on the local level if they are to be effective. State governments sometimes seem unable to cope with their problems, partly because some of these problems do not fit nicely into state boundaries, but rather spill over to neighboring states and regions.

The federal, state, and local governments must learn to work together, coordinating their activities in order that the pressing needs of our Nation be met.

I. Federal grant-in-aid programs are used to alleviate situations in areas where state and local governments have failed to meet the needs of the public.

   A. Why do most federal aid programs require state and local governments to match in part the federal dollars?

   B. Is it fair for some people to receive federal aid while others are denied it due to the failure of their state or local government to agree to match the federal dollars?

   C. How can the Federal Government control programs which they fund on the local level?

II. States are often accused of being too lethargic in meeting the challenges of our times.

   A. Why would a state legislature refuse to meet federal requirements for aid? Can you identify cases?

   B. Why do many cities find it difficult to meet federal aid requirements?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 36

HOW OUR FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM WORKS

The judicial branch is the weakest part of our government. It has no army or police to enforce its decisions. Rather, its power depends on the cooperation of Congress and the Executive. In any examination of the federal judiciary, we must remember that our courts are made up of men. These men interpret and live by laws which are made by other men. They are concerned with protecting the rights all men are entitled to because they are human beings and because they are American citizens. Sometimes decisions will be reversed; more often they will not. The judgments of the courts reflect the spirit of the age. Whatever that spirit may be, the judiciary consists of men who devote their lives trying to make ours a just society. Since they are men, they will not always succeed, but the fact that they make the attempt makes our society an easier one in which to live.

Models

Civil rights cases
Haynsworth and Carswell appointments

I. Many federal decisions originate with cases from state courts.

   A. How can a federal court become involved with a case judged by a state court?

   B. What is a writ of certiorari?

II. Federal judges are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

   A. How do state court judges obtain their positions?

   B. What qualifications do you feel a federal judge should have?

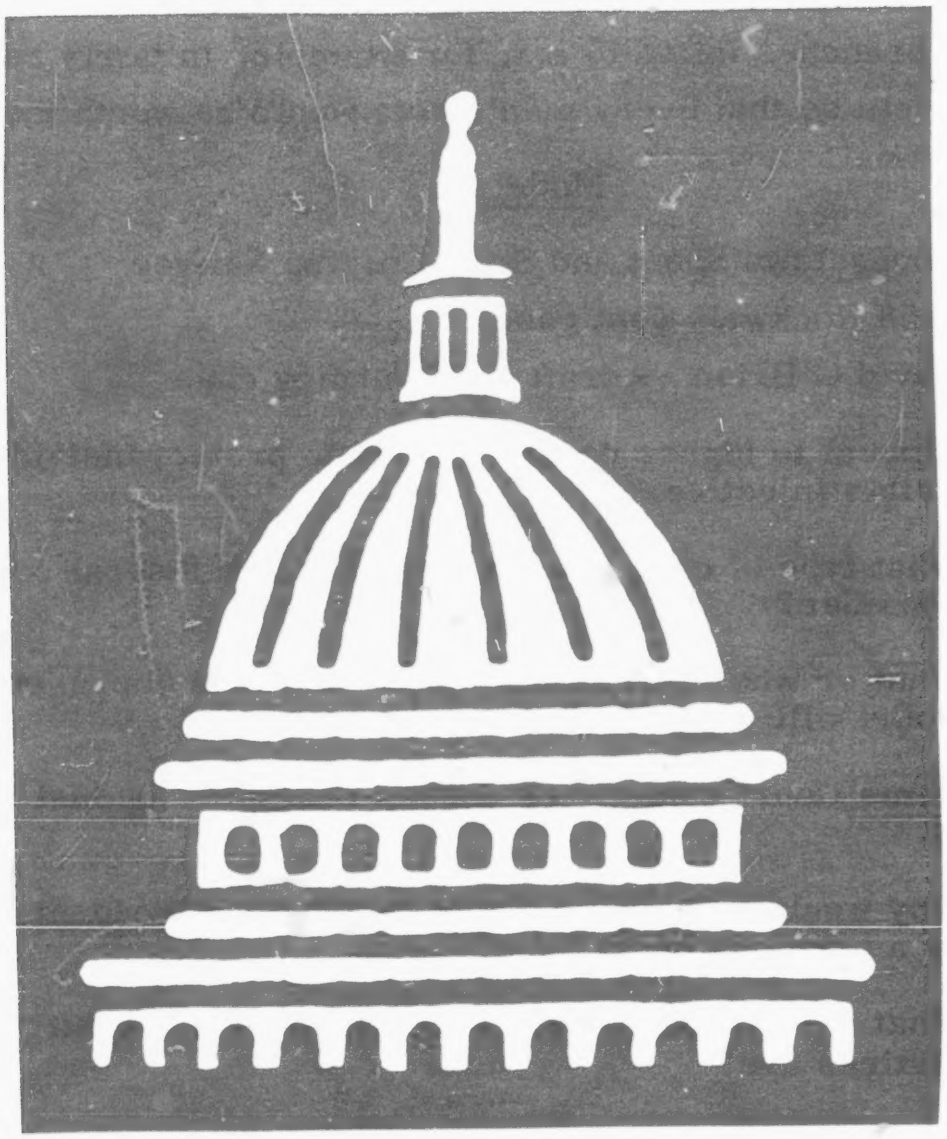
   C. Should his qualifications be subjected to rigorous review as in recent cases?

III. The judicial process is expensive and slow.

A. How could the federal courts be made to function more efficiently?

B. Do you think the amount of time that passes before a case comes up in court is ever beneficial?

C. What has the judiciary done to insure that men are treated fairly under the law even though they may be poor?



THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 37

CONFLICT AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FEDERAL COURTS AND THE OTHER BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Although the Supreme Court responds to the spirit of the times, its decisions are not always popular with everyone. It is sometimes accused of being too powerful because it can severely limit the actions of the other branches of government. It has also been criticized as being undemocratic because its members are not elected.

The Supreme Court deserves the credit for sometimes acting when the other branches failed to act, for example, in fairly reapportioning voting districts so that every man's vote would be worth the same.

Models

Youngstown Sheet and Steel Co. vs. Sawyer
1958 Rockwell Kent case
David O'Brien -- draft card burning case

I. Judicial appeal to higher courts is used to protect individuals from possible injustice.

   A. What type of cases do the United States federal courts consider?

   B. What or who determines which cases the Supreme Court will consider?

II. The Supreme Court sometimes causes reactions against its decisions.

   A. Why would a Supreme Court reverse a precedent set by a previous court?

   B. What type of men do you think the Supreme Court justices are?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 38

THE SUPREME COURT AND CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

One of the primary functions of the Supreme Court is to insure the rights of individuals. In doing this, it is sometimes accused of protecting criminals, making it difficult for law enforcement agencies to obtain evidence on suspects, and generally contributing to the lawlessness in our society. Although some have abused the liberal tendency of the Court in recent years, decisions protecting the rights of individuals have forced law enforcement agencies to become more responsible in their actions.

Models

Cases of: Billy Sol Estes
Sam E. Shepherd
Clarence Gideon

I. The Court acts as an arbiter between individuals and government.

A. Which is more important -- law enforcement or protection of civil rights? Is it possible to have both?

B. To what civil liberties are you entitled? Are you deprived of any?

II. Dissent is healthy in a democratic society.

A. How can dissent contribute to the growth of a society?

B. Should the majority always rule? Why or why not?

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 39

HOW THE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES REACH DECISIONS

The judicial branch of our government has been called the living conscience of our Constitution. While most other countries have changed their form of government several times in the past 200 years, the United States has not felt the necessity of discarding its Constitution. This country has grown from 13 rural, loosely connected states to the most powerful industrial nation in the world; yet we still have the same Constitution. One of the main reasons for this, is that the Constitution is flexible; it is open to interpretation; it grows with the Nation. The judiciary has allowed the Constitution to grow, to be in tune with the spirit of the times. The Supreme Court has been responsible for making ours a "living" Constitution.

I. A Justice's attitude about what his judicial powers are will affect his decisions.

   A. What is the difference between judicial activism and judicial restraint?

   B. How do you account for such diverse attitudes and perspectives among justices?

   C. Is such diversity in the best interests of the country?

II. Supreme Court decisions are reached only after careful consideration and discussion.

   A. Why are the deliberations of the Supreme Court held in secret?

   B. What is the function of the law clerk in the Supreme Court?

   C. Explain how majority-minority reports are written.

THE GOVERNMENT STORY

Program 40

THE SUPREME COURT AND SOCIETY

In the past decade, few institutions have come under such concentrated attack as has the Supreme Court of the United States. However, throughout its history, decisions of the Court have directly affected the legal, social, and political realities of American life. Frequently, supporters' claim, the Court has served as the Nation's conscience, defending the rights of minority groups, preserving the freedom of speech, and guarding individual liberties. This social liberalism has offended many critics who have accused the Court of attempting to legislate social change rather than confining its activities to strict constitutional interpretations.

Current conflicts over the qualifications and performance of Supreme Court Justices have intensified the controversy over the proper role of an appointed body in a democratic system. The future strength and significance of the Supreme Court will be determined not only by the attitudes and philosophies of new members of the Court, but by the Executive who appoints them and the Senate in their confirmation or denial of these appointments.

I. The rarity of unanimous decisions in the Supreme Court illustrates that the Court reflects contemporary conflicts in American life.

Models

School Prayer Decision, 1962
Miranda Case, 1968
Review of the Smith Act, 1952
Minimum Wage Decision, 1937
Ginsberg Case, 1966

A. What evidence is there that the Court tends to be more concerned with human rights than is the general American public?

B. How have recent Court interpretations of the first amendment affected American life?

C. How have recent Court decisions influenced political alignments in the United States?

II. The Supreme Court is an essential partner in our governmental system of checks and balances.

Models

"One Man One Vote" Decision, 1964
Danbury Hatters Case, 1908

A. What control does the Executive have over the Supreme Court?

B. Can the Court be nonpolitical?

C. In what instances has the Court frustrated the legislative process?

III. It has been said that the members of the Supreme Court serve as the philosophers of our government and the guardians of our values.

Models

Brown vs. Board of Education, 1954
Review of Smith Act, 1952
Roosevelt's Court packing scheme of 1937
Court review of Espionage Act (1917) and Sedition Act (1918)

A. In what way was the Brown decision a reinterpretation of the 14th amendment?

B. What earlier Court decision did it reverse?

C. How could the Court be truly representative of the American people? Should it be?

D. In what ways might Court definitions of "a clear and present danger" be threatening to individual liberties?

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